

at the University of St. Francis to equip high school and college students with the tools necessary to defend life in the public space. Cathie was also essential in helping mobilize Northeast Indiana's contingent to attend the annual National March for Life in Washington, D.C. One of the highlights of my time in Congress was being joined on stage by Cathie at the 2017 March as Vice President Mike Pence gave one of the most forceful defenses for life ever.

Beyond her professional accolades and achievements, of which there are many, Cathie is one of the kindest, most genuine, and dutiful people I have ever known. I am proud to call her a friend of many years and wish her Godspeed as she enters a new chapter of her life. This document serves as a testament to Cathie's career and character, and an appeal to future generations—that they be inspired by Cathie to carry on the fight for life in the years and decades to come.

#### HONORING FORMER JUSTICE OF THE PEACE TERESA VERA PEREZ

#### HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 10, 2022*

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mrs. Teresa Vera Perez of Concepcion, Texas, who dedicated her life to serving the people of Duval County.

Mrs. Perez was born on November 25, 1933, to Saturnino Vera and Francisca Saenz Vera. At the age of 18, she married Mr. Asildo Lopez Perez with whom she shared a life for 57 years. During this time, they raised five children together: Elena, Ester, Eloy, and twins Eduardo and Ernesto.

Mrs. Perez first ran for Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2 in 1977 and won, making her the first female Justice of the Peace in Duval County history. She served a total of three terms, becoming a lifelong member of the Texas Justices of the Peace and Constables Association and Chaplain for the South Texas Association of Justices of the Peace and Constables. In addition to her time serving as Justice of the Peace, Mrs. Perez also worked as a Nurse's Aide at the P&S Hospital, previously located in Alice, Texas. Following her 12 years as Justice of the Peace, she continued to serve as an Honorable Judge by joining couples in matrimony.

Mrs. Perez was an active member of the Duval County and the Concepcion communities throughout her lifetime. She proudly served as a Eucharistic Minister and member of the Immaculate Concepcion Catholic Church Altar and Rosary Society as well as the Guadalupana and the Fiesta Del Rancho Committee. She was also crowned Queen of the Elderly Nutrition program Twice. In 1993, at the age of 60 years old, she obtained her GED diploma in Alice, Texas. Mrs. Perez passed away on January 23, 2014. Although she is no longer with us, her memory remains eternal.

Madam Speaker, I stand here today to acknowledge the countless achievements and charitable acts of Mrs. Teresa Vera Perez. She devoted her life to the betterment of her community and her legacy will be no doubt be

remembered by all who knew her. Her general love for life, her family, the Lord, and commitment to her neighbors is admirable. May she rest in peace.

#### HONORING DR. THEODORE JACKSON VIARS

#### HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 10, 2022*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Dr. Theodore Jackson (Ted) Viars, who passed away on December 13, 2021 at the age of 87. Dr. Viars was a longtime educator in western Virginia who positively impacted generations of students.

Theodore Viars was born on December 26, 1933 in Radford, Virginia. His parents were Robert and Louise Viars. He was a student athlete throughout his time at Radford High School, from which he graduated in 1952, and the University of Virginia. At UVA, he earned a football scholarship and played varsity baseball while earning a place on the Dean's List, serving on the Student Council, and belonging to the Varsity Club and the SAE fraternity. He later earned a master's degree and a doctorate from Virginia Tech.

Education became Dr. Viars' mission. He began his career as a teacher and assistant principal at Pulaski High School from 1956 to 1960. Subsequently, he worked as principal at Clifton Forge from 1960 to 1963 before moving to Salem to become Glenvar High School's first principal. After Glenvar, he held a variety of roles with the Roanoke County Schools, including Director of Instruction, Assistant Superintendent, and Deputy Superintendent for Instruction. He retired from the school system in 1990 and taught as an Associate Professor of Education at Hollins College from 1991 to 1994.

Dr. Viars was a member of Central United Methodist Church in Salem for over 57 years and served in the United States Marine Corps Reserve.

Dr. Viars was preceded in death by his daughter, Kim Viars. He is survived by his wife, Johnsey; children, Kelly Viars Coudriet (Greg), Ted Viars II (Tracey), and Martin Viars (Sherry); grandchildren, Jackson Bradley, Kelsey Legra, Kayleigh Cox, Teddy III, Max, and Brock Viars; and great-grandchildren, Cayden and Roman Legra. I offer them my condolences on the loss of this committed lifelong educator.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF OLIN R. PICKENS

#### HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 10, 2022*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and service of Mr. Olin R. Pickens who will celebrate his 100th birthday this month. I join his family, friends, and loved ones in celebrating his lifelong dedication to this country.

Olin Pickens was an infantryman assigned to the Army 805th Tank Destroyer Unit during

WWII before he was captured as a Prisoner of War. He was executing a mission to capture German field marshal Erwin Rommel in North Africa in 1943 when his unit was attacked by the Germans. His unit, along with three others, attempted to breach a German Blockade to reach Rommel. The soldiers understood this to be a suicide mission. On February 16, 1943, PFC Pickens was captured in Tunisia and spent 26 months as a POW. He escaped once, but was recaptured. In April of 1945, Pickens was finally released.

Pickens looks back on his time in the army with astounding bravery and resolve. I admire his tenacity and dedication to this country. It is because of men like Mr. Pickens that we celebrate the freedoms we enjoy every day, and for his service, I am grateful. It is a joy to wish him a happy 100th birthday.

#### INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO AMEND THE DISTRICT OF CO- LUMBIA HOME RULE ACT TO PERMIT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TO TRANSMIT ACTS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TO CONGRESS IN ELECTRONIC FORM

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 10, 2022*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce a bill that would amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (HRA) to permit the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia to transmit legislation to Congress in the form of the Chairman's choosing, including in electronic form. This bill seeks to modernize the method D.C. legislation is transmitted to Congress for the congressional review period.

The HRA requires that D.C. legislation be transmitted to Congress for a congressional review period before the legislation can take effect. The legislation takes effect after a review period, unless a resolution of disapproval is enacted into law during the review period. While the HRA is silent on the method that the Chairman must use to transmit the legislation, House and Senate precedent require that the legislation be physically transmitted to the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate. Physical transmittal imposes costs in terms of time on the Council, the House and Senate Parliamentarians, the Speaker, the President of the Senate, the House Clerk, the Senate Secretary, the House Committee on Oversight and Reform and the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. When the HRA was enacted in 1973, email did not exist.

The Council engages in a 12-step process to comply with the physical transmittal requirement:

Step 1: Write individualized cover letters.

Step 2: The Chairman physically signs the cover letters.

Step 3: Arrange a pick-up time of the legislation and cover letters from the Chairman.

Step 4: Print two copies of the bill and two copies of the committee report to deliver to the Speaker and to the President of the Senate.

Step 5: Arrange a time for delivery to the Speaker's office.

Step 6: Arrange a time for delivery to the President of the Senate's office.

Step 7: Arrange for two D.C. employees to drive to the Capitol. (Two staffers are required because parking restrictions require a driver and a delivery person.)

Step 8: Drive to the Capitol.

Step 9: Deliver the legislation to the Speaker's office and get a signed receipt.

Step 10: Deliver the legislation to the President of the Senate's office and get a signed receipt.

Step 11: Assign the congressional review period based on the receipts.

Step 12: File the signed receipts.

The aftermath of the January 6, 2021 attack on the Capitol highlighted the burdens of physical transmittal. After temporary fencing was installed around the Capitol, staff from the D.C. Council could not enter the Capitol, delaying the transmittal of legislation until Council staff and congressional staff developed a workaround. Council staff and congressional staff met outside the fencing so the Council staff could physically transmit the legislation.

Today, when we live in the era of e-mail, there is no reason to continue to require an increasingly ancient process, when these documents could be transmitted electronically instead, saving a tremendous amount of time and effort. I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense bill.

#### BERRYESSA SNOW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL MONUMENT EXPANSION ACT

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 10, 2022*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the "Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Expansion Act," with Congressman MIKE THOMPSON (D-CA05) as the original cosponsor. Our legislation would expand the National Monument to include approximately 3,925 acres of federal land in Lake County, California; create new co-management opportunities with federally recognized tribes; and rename Walker Ridge to "Molok Luyuk," meaning Condor Ridge in the Patwin language of Native Americans indigenous to the area. It is endorsed by the Lake County Board of Supervisors and the Tribal Council of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation.

In the 114th Congress, I championed bicameral legislation (H.R. 761/S. 393) to establish the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument, with then-Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and Congressman THOMPSON. Our legislation would have included the Walker Ridge tract in Lake and Colusa Counties, California, administered by the federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM) within the National Monument's boundary.

In December 2014, Congressman THOMPSON and I hosted then-Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell at the Lake Berryessa reservoir, so she could view the landscape and hear from local community and tribal leaders about the need to permanently conserve this special place. Said Secretary Jewell at the time: "This is a beautiful area with cultural history and great opportunities for outdoor recreation and wildlife viewing so it's no surprise that the

community wants to make sure that it is protected and passed on to the next generation." In July 2015, President Obama issued Presidential Proclamation 9298, designating the federal land surrounding Lake Berryessa administered by the BLM and U.S. Forest Service as the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument.

The "Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Expansion Act" would expand the existing National Monument boundary to include the Lake County portion of Walker Ridge, which the legislation renames to Condor Ridge (Molok Luyuk). This ridgeline is an extinct volcanic mountain range with an unusual "serpentine" soil composition supporting a trove of rare and beautiful plant species like the adobe lily (*Fritillaria pluriflora*) found only in this part of northern California. Other at-risk and protected animal species such as the bald eagle, golden eagle, and tule elk also make their home there.

Our legislation would not affect privately owned, state, tribal, or non-federal land. The federal land parcel proposed for inclusion within the National Monument does not include acreage of the BLM's Walker Ridge tract in Colusa County. Our legislation would also ensure that federally recognized tribes—whose ancestors called the National Monument home for millennia—have a meaningful role in the land stewardship of the National Monument. Finally, our legislation would direct the BLM and the Forest Service to complete the management plan for the National Monument, which has remained unfinished since 2015.

Madam Speaker, I encourage all Members of the California delegation to join us in cosponsoring this legislation to permanently conserve this special place in Lake County. We must protect this unique landscape for future generations to enjoy and honor the Native American peoples who walked this land well before our country was even founded.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF SHERIFF JIMMY SIMMONS

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 10, 2022*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Sheriff Jimmy Simmons of Houston, Mississippi who passed away on November 19, 2021 at the age of 75. I join his family, friends, and loved ones in mourning his loss.

Jimmy Simmons was born on March 18, 1946 to James Travis and Venita Buchanan Simmons. He was a member of the National Guard. He was known as a horse trader, also owning rodeo bulls, mules, tracking hounds, cow dogs and coon dogs. He was a law enforcement officer for 30 years and spent 24 as a sheriff of Chickasaw County. He was a dedicated member of Houka First Baptist Church. He wished to be remembered for his humor and humility.

Left to cherish his memory are Liz Simmons, Annette Simmons, Chad Simmons, and many grandchildren and great grandchildren. I offer my most sincere condolences to the Chickasaw County community.

#### TRIBUTE TO BETTY WHITE

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 10, 2022*

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Betty Marion White, renowned award-winning actress and animal welfare champion, of Los Angeles, California, who passed away on December 31, 2021, at the age of 99.

Betty was born on January 17, 1922 in Oak Park, Illinois. In 1923, she and her parents moved to Alhambra, California and later to Los Angeles, where she graduated from Beverly Hills High School, and made her professional acting debut at the Bliss Hayden Little Theatre in Beverly Hills.

Ms. White served in the American Women's Voluntary Services during World War II, and made her movie debut in *Time to Kill*, a film for servicemen about military educational programs. A dynamic radio personality, she appeared in shows such as *The Great Gildersleeve* and *Blondie*, and had her own variety radio show, *The Betty White Show*. Moving into television, she co-hosted *Hollywood on Television*, a live television variety show, and later became co-producer and star of the show, *Life With Elizabeth*, which won her the first of many Emmy awards. Over her seventy-plus year career, she starred and appeared in numerous television shows—sitcoms, game shows, talk shows and soap operas, including the *Betty White Show*, *What's My line*, *Password*, *The Love Boat*, *Maybe This Time*, *Boston Legal*, *Hot in Cleveland*, *The Bold and the Beautiful*, and *Saturday Night Live*, in addition to films such as *Lake Placid*, *The Proposal* and the 2018 documentary about her career, *First Lady of Television*. Ms. White was best known for her two signature roles as the conniving Sue Ann Nivens in the popular *Mary Tyler Moore Show* and the naive Rose Nylund in the enormously successful *The Golden Girls* television series.

I came to know Betty through her love of animals, and she was a tireless animal welfare advocate, author, donor, and spokeswoman. She worked with and supported many organizations such as the African Wildlife Foundation, Actors and Others for Animals and the Morris Animal Foundation, serving as president and trustee, and she produced as well as hosted the syndicated series, *The Pet Set*, which highlighted celebrities and their pets. It was her involvement with the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association (GLAZA), the support group for the Los Angeles Zoo, that was near and dear to her heart, and spanned more than fifty years, beginning at the zoo's opening in 1966. One of her major projects was to produce, write and star in *Backstage at the Zoo*, a television special that aired in 1974, with famous friends Mary Tyler Moore, Jimmy Stewart, L.A. Mayor Tom Bradley and others making appearances. This was significant, as the special raised awareness of the zoo, brought the zoo into the homes of many Angelenos, emphasized the zoo's outstanding animal care team and showcased the behind-the-scenes work. Since 1974, Ms. White has continuously served on the Board of Trustees for GLAZA, stepping away for several years to become an inaugural member of the Board of Zoo Commissioners, where she served for